AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/918,532

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 13, the first full paragraph:

Eighty parts of 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, 20 parts of acryloylmorpholine, 3 parts of acrylic acid, and 0.1 part of azobisisobutyronitrile (initiator) were previously mixed and introduced into a reservoir tank 1. The mixture was pressurized to 20 MPa by a high-pressure pump 2 and fed to a joint block 3 equipped with a line mixer at a flow rate controlled by a needle valve. Through a separate line, carbon dioxide compressed to 20 MPa by a high-pressure pump 4 was fed to the mixer at a flow rate controlled by a needle valve. The monomer/initiator mixture and carbon dioxide were mixed uniformly in the joint block 3 and forwarded to a jacketed tubular reactor 5 capable of temperature control (length: 2000 mm; inner diameter: 12 mm). The monomer was polymerized while flowing through the tubular reactor 5 kept at a constant temperature of 60□C60°C with a residence time of about 100 minutes. The polymer produced was discharged in the same manner as in Example 1. The amount of the polymer discharged was 1 g/min, and the amount of carbon dioxide mixed was 1 g/min.